

RISK MANAGEMENT STEP 1 – HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

Generally hazards can be classified into five groups:

- Physical;
- Chemical;
- Biological;
- Mechanical;
- Psychological.

Unless hazards are identified the rest of the Risk Management process cannot begin.

PHYSICAL:

Physical Hazard Cause can include

- Heat;
- Lighting;
- Noise;
- Vibration;
- Ionising radiation;
- Dust;
- Pressure;
- Electricity.



Potential Disease or Injury can include

- Heatstroke, cramp, fatigue
- Headaches, eyestrain;
- Hearing loss;
- White finger disease;
- Lung cancer;
- Silicosis;
- Decompression sickness (bends);
- Heart failure, burns.

CHEMICAL:

Chemical Hazard Cause can include

- Acids, alkalis;
- Metals;
- Non-metals;
- Gases;
- Organic compounds;
- Dusts;
- Vapours

Potential Disease or Injury can include

- Dermatitis, eye injury;
- Cadmium/lead/mercury poisoning;
 - Arsenic/cyanide poisoning;
 - Carbon monoxide poisoning;
- Cancer, nerve damage;
- Lead poisoning;
- Mercury poisoning.

MECHANICAL:

Mechanical Hazard Cause can include

- Manual handling – over exertion, lifting or pulling;
- Unguarded machines;
- Hydraulic pressure;
- Gravitational energy – falls of people or objects.

Potential Disease or Injury can include

- Musculoskeletal injury – spinal injury, muscle strains, sprains;
- Acute physical injuries – severed/crushed limbs;
- Acute injury – crushed limbs;
 - Acute injury – broken bones, brain damage.

BIOLOGICAL:

Biological Hazard Cause can include

- Animal-borne;
- Human-borne;
- Vegetable-borne.

Potential Disease or Injury can include

- Anthrax, Q fever;
- AIDS;
- Aspergillosis (farmers lung), foodborne infections and poisoning



PSYCHOLOGICAL :

Psychological Hazard Cause can include

- Violence, harassment or abuse;
- Stress

Potential Disease or Injury can include

- Physical harm, stress;
- Psychosomatic disorders (eg physical symptoms of illness that may be brought about by stress).

HAZARD SOURCES

Psychological Hazard Cause can include

- Violence, harassment or abuse;
- Stress



Potential Disease or Injury can include

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